

WAVES OF CHANGE

PART FOUR



# SONIC

SEGA®

## THE HEDGEHOG

ISSUE 263





Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures – A world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

# SONIC™

## THE HEDGEHOG

### PREVIOUSLY...

#### IMPERFECT CHAOS!

The Shattered World Crisis is upon us! The planet's crust has shattered apart, and monsters crawl from the cracks every night! Sonic and the Freedom Fighters are on the hunt for the seven Chaos Emeralds and Gaia Temples. By combining their power, they hope to restore the world to order.



citizens she'd sworn to protect. The result: the city's protective shield fell!

Now Meropolis is overrun with ravenous monsters! To make matters worse, Sonic and Rotor are drowning as they fall before the might of the malicious Dark Guardian...



### WHO'S WHO



**SONIC THE HEDGEHOG**  
WORLD FAMOUS HERO



**AMY ROSE**  
HAMMER-SWINGING HEROINE  
& **ROTOR**  
THE WALRUS  
BRAINY, BRAWNY HERO



**CORAL THE BETTA**  
TEMPLE PRIESTESS  
& **ROTOR THE SHARK**  
TEMPLE DEFENDER



???



MEROPIS--CITY  
UNDER SIEGE!

# WAVES OF CHANGE

Part Four:

## DIVINE WATERS

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ANTHONY GACCIONE at SEGA Licensing

**ROTOR**  
GREAT SWIMMER--  
BUT STILL  
DROWNING!

**DARK  
GUARDIAN**  
COMMANDER  
OF MONSTERS

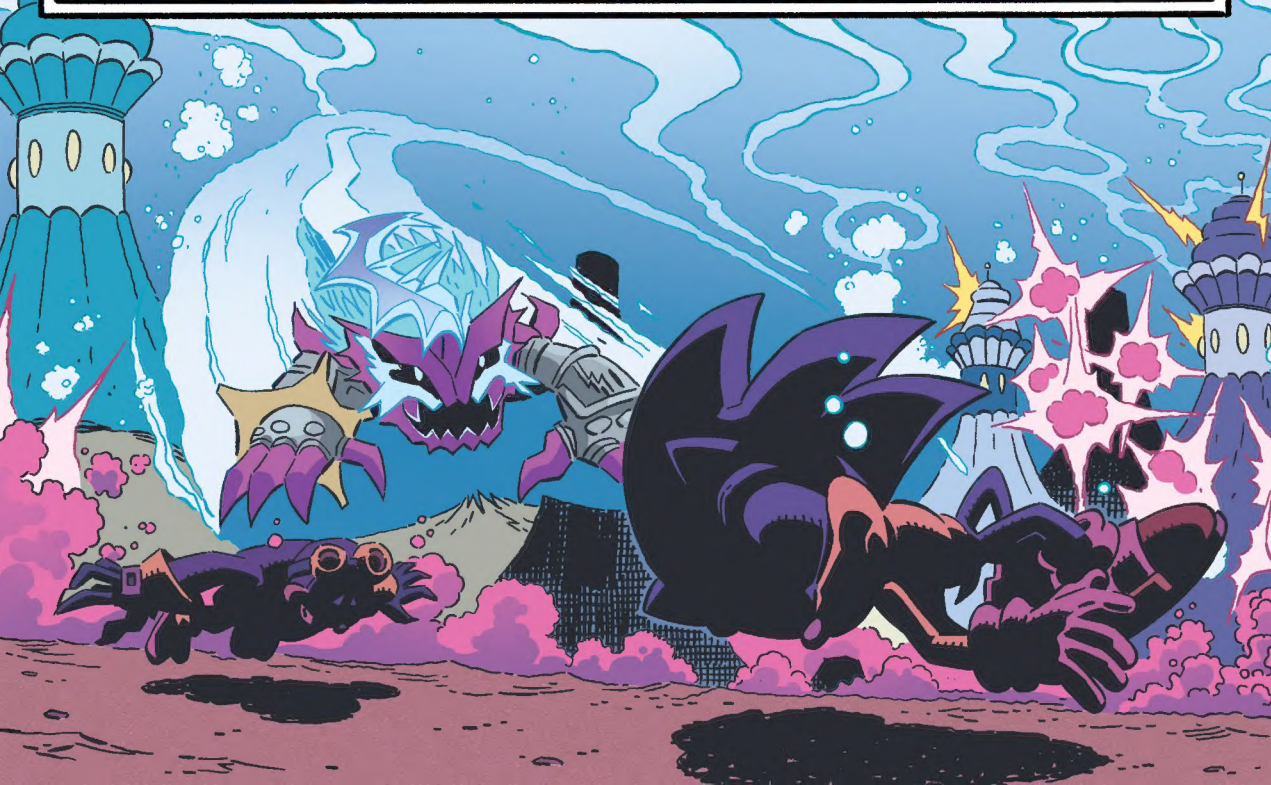
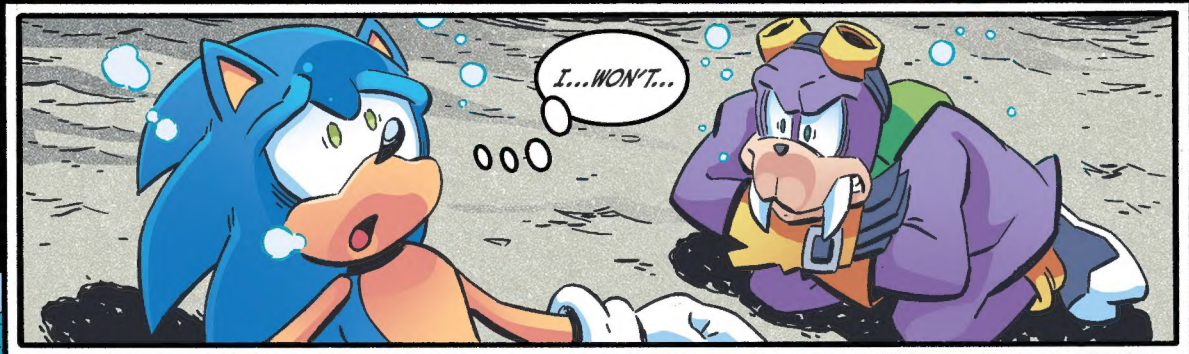
RUNNING  
--OUT OF--  
AIR!

BUTT  
--GETTING--  
KICKED!

I'M  
--LOSING--  
IT!!!

**SONIC**  
FAST ON LAND--  
HOPELESS  
UNDERWATER







MEANWHILE, IN THE  
NEARBY EUSEBES  
SHRINE...

RAZOR! THE AIR  
CHARMS SONIC AND  
ROTOR TOOK MIGHT  
HAVE RUN OUT BY  
NOW!

PEARLY  
PRIESTESS IN  
TRAINING

CRUSHER  
RAZOR'S CHAO  
BUDDY

AMY ROSE  
WARRIOR  
WOMAN

KINDA  
GOT MY HANDS  
FULL HERE,  
SQUIRT!

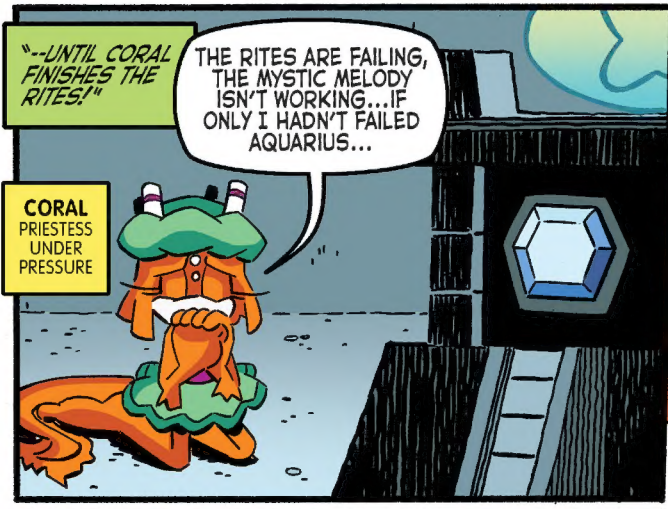
RAZOR  
CORAL'S SWORN  
PROTECTOR

RAZOR--SONIC *NEEDS*  
ME! IF I TAKE AN AIR  
CH--!

GUARD PEARLY  
AND THE CHAO!  
I'LL COVER THE  
TEMPLE! WE  
*HAVE* TO  
HOLD OUT--

MORE  
ARE  
COMING  
THROUGH  
THE  
CEILING!





"--UNTIL CORAL FINISHES THE RITES!"

THE RITES ARE FAILING, THE MYSTIC MELODY ISN'T WORKING...IF ONLY I HADN'T FAILED AQUARIUS...

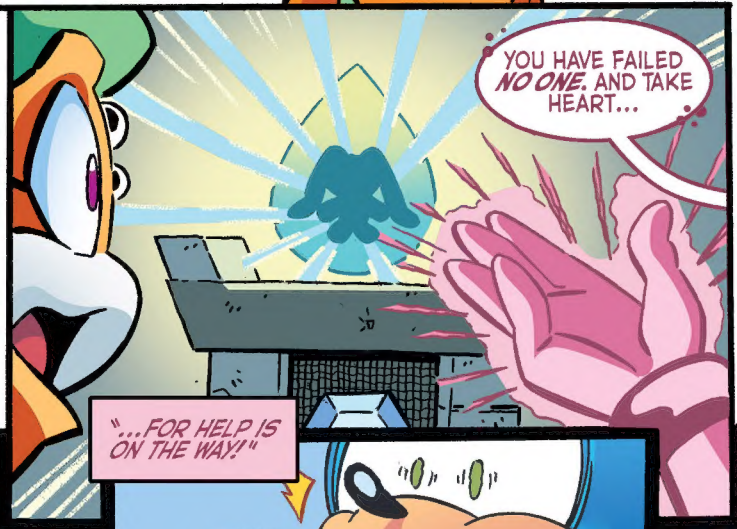
CORAL PRIESTESS UNDER PRESSURE



O SPIRITS! PLEASE HEAR ME! PLEASE DON'T LET MY FAILINGS DOOM SO MANY OTHERS! WE NEED A MIRACLE! I'M *BEGGING* YOU!



O PRIESTESS--FORGIVE *ME* FOR *NOT* ANSWERING YOU SOONER. THE DARK POWERS HINDER SPIRIT AND MORTAL ALIKE.



YOU HAVE FAILED *NO ONE*. AND TAKE HEART...

"...FOR HELP IS ON THE WAY!"



≡GASP!!!≡



OH, SNAP!

CHAOS?!

CHAOS  
THE WATER GOD  
(SOMETIMES "OF DESTRUCTION")





WOO-HOO!  
GO GET  
'EM!

GIVE 'EM  
A PERFECT  
BEAT-DOWN!

**RRRRRRARCH!**

**FOOSH!**



HE JUST HIT THAT  
MONSTER *WITH THE*  
*OCEAN!*

OH! OH! THAT'S WHY  
THE OCEANS DIDN'T DRAIN  
WHEN THE WORLD BROKE  
APART! CHAOS IS CON-  
TROLLING IT ALL!

ROTOR?  
BUDDY?  
GEEK-OUT  
*LATER,*  
SAVE CITY  
*NOW!*

**STRIKER  
THE MANTIS  
SHRIMP  
CAPTAIN  
OF THE CITY  
GUARD**

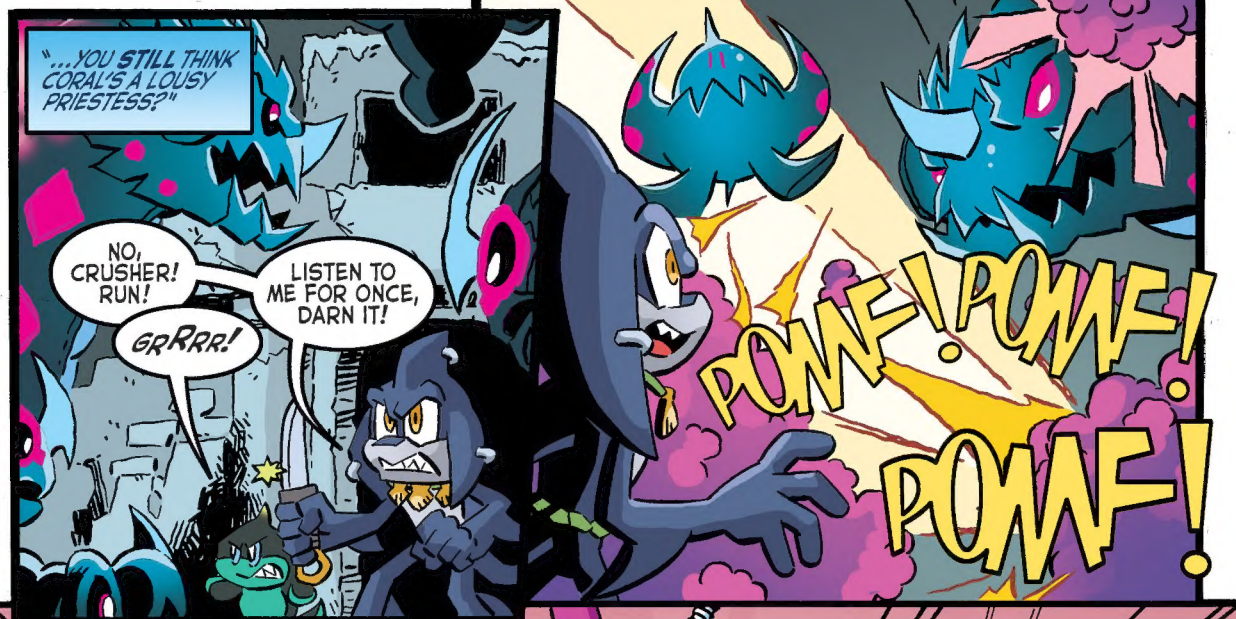
TH-THAT'S...CHAOS! THE LIVING  
WAVE! THE GUARDIAN OF CHAO!  
*YOU KNOW CHAOS?!*

OH,  
SURE. I  
HELPED  
HIM WITH  
A THING  
ONCE.

I GUESS  
CORAL USED  
HER CONNEX-  
IONS TO BRING  
HIM IN. SO TELL  
ME, CAP'N...







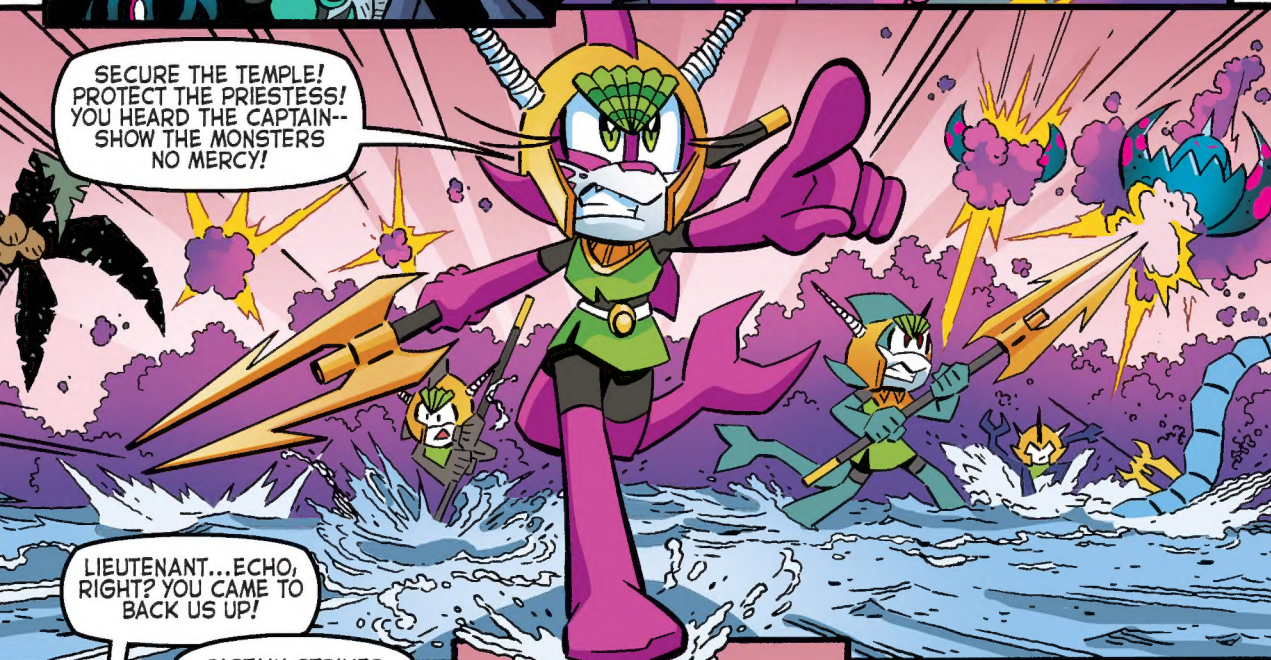
"...YOU STILL THINK CORAL'S A LOUSY PRIESTESS?"

NO, CRUSHER!  
RUN!

LISTEN TO  
ME FOR ONCE,  
DARN IT!

GRRRR!

POW! POW!  
POW!



SECURE THE TEMPLE!  
PROTECT THE PRIESTESS!  
YOU HEARD THE CAPTAIN--  
SHOW THE MONSTERS  
NO MERCY!

LIEUTENANT...ECHO,  
RIGHT? YOU CAME TO  
BACK US UP!

CAPTAIN STRIKER  
SENT US. IT...WOULD  
HAVE BEEN WRONG  
FOR US TO LEAVE  
THE SHRINE TO FEND  
FOR ITSELF.

WITH YOU  
HERE, I CAN  
GO TO SONIC  
AND--!

YOU'D BE OVER-  
WHELMED BEFORE  
YOU REACHED THE  
CITY! I CAN'T SPARE  
YOU AN ESCORT!

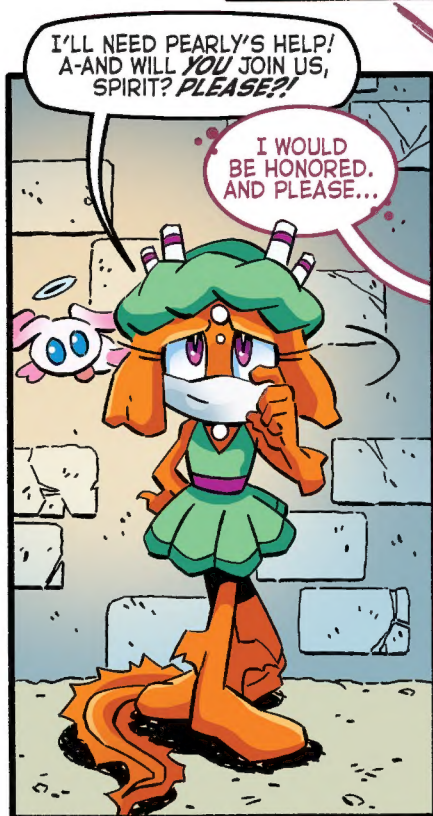
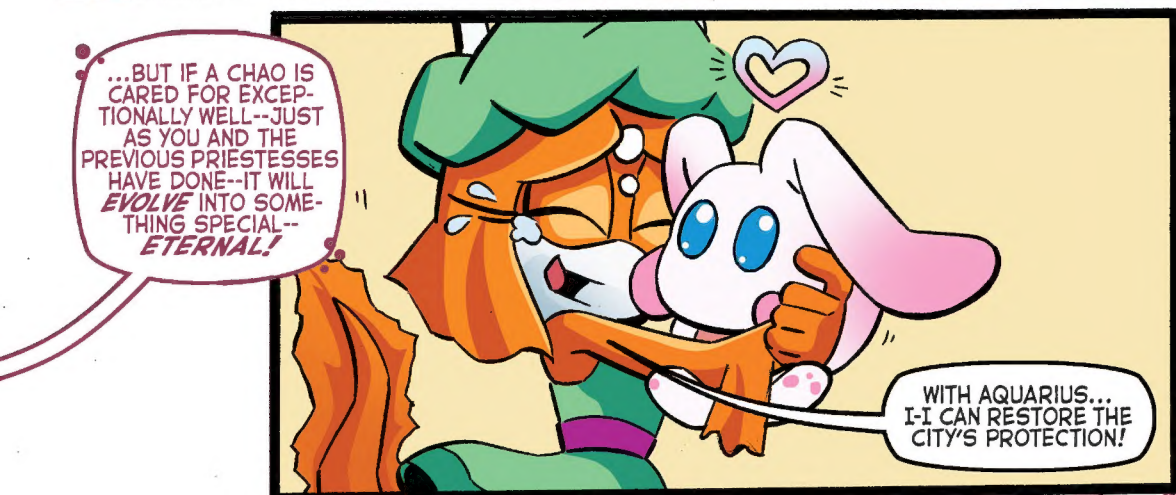
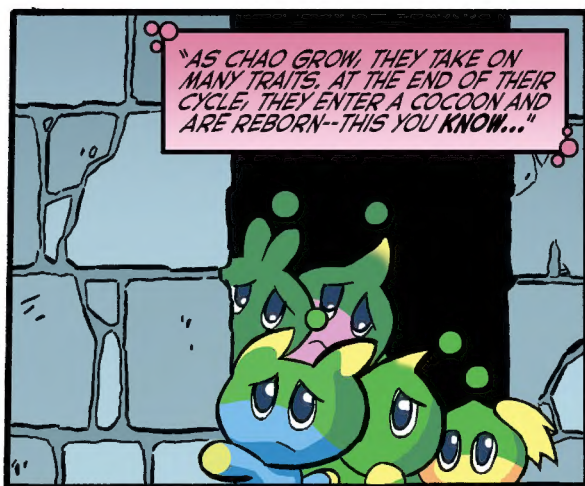
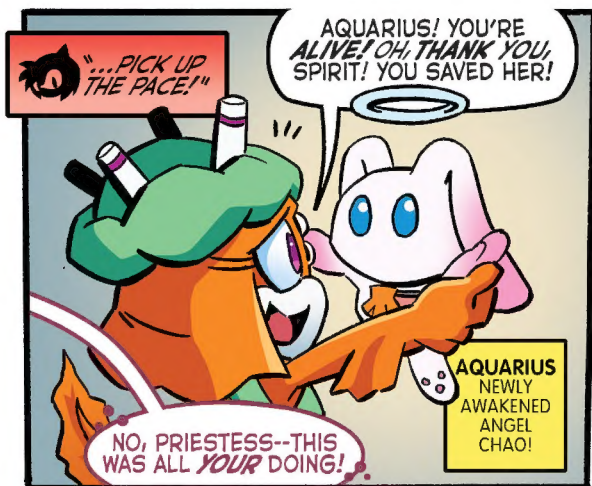
SHE'S RIGHT  
...I'M NEEDED  
HERE.

SONIC  
WILL FIND A WAY--HE  
ALWAYS DOES.

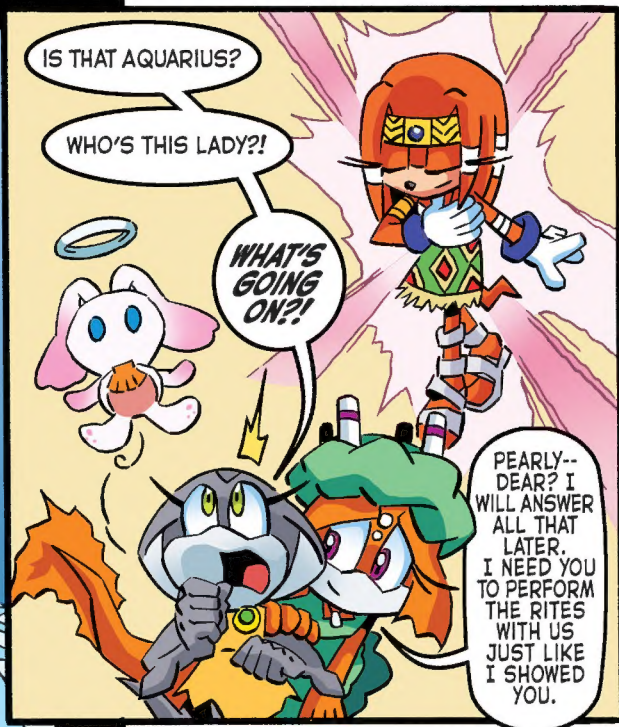
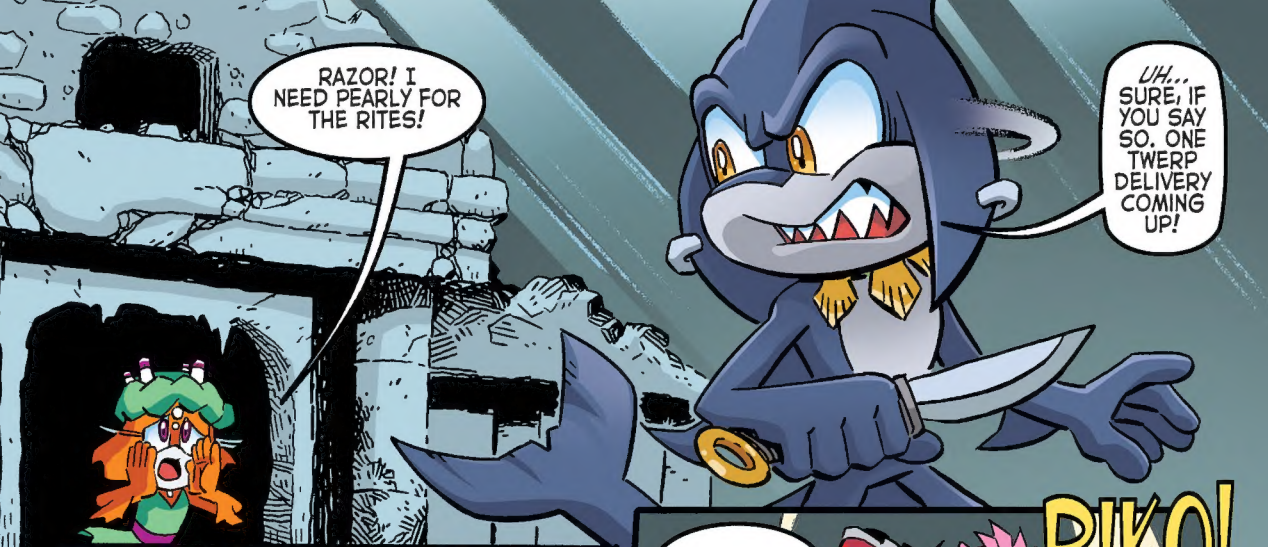


CORAL,  
WHATEVER  
YOU'RE  
DOING IN  
THERE...

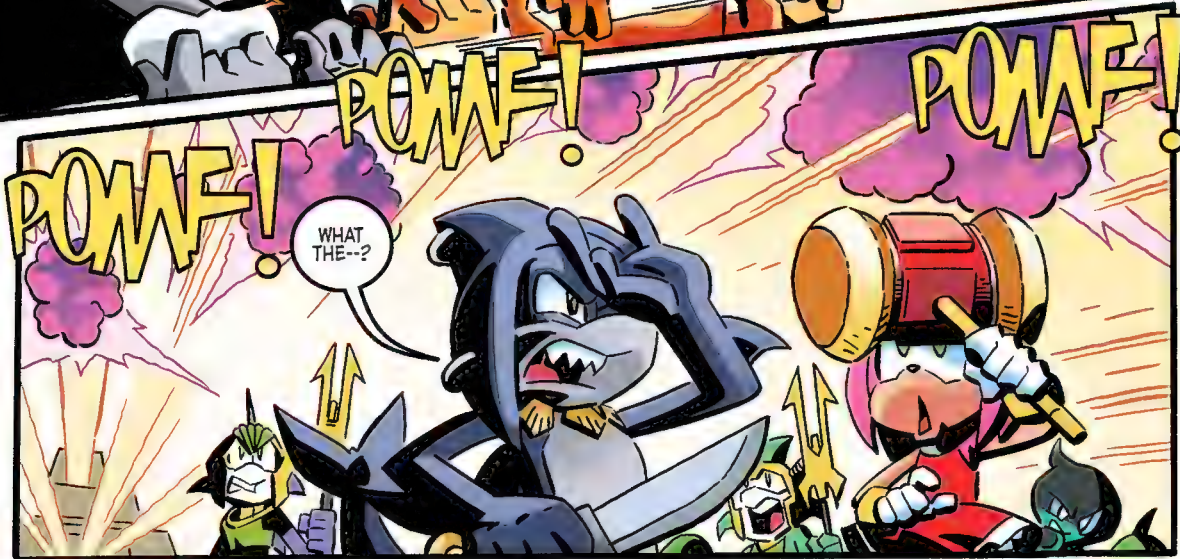
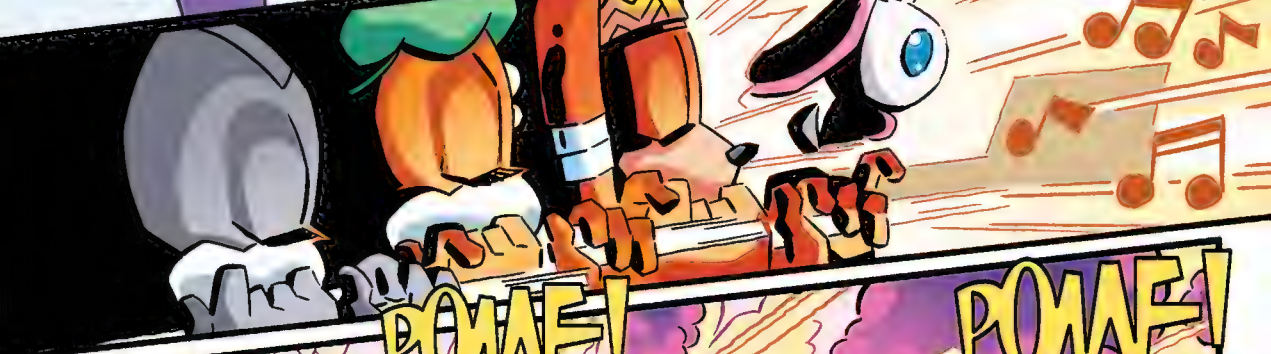




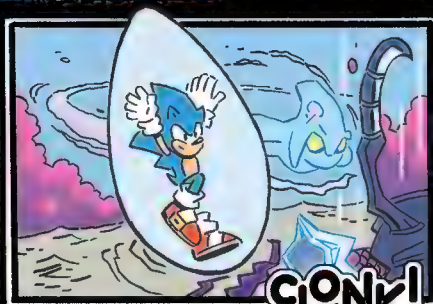














AND SO...

...SO THEN I RAN THE CITY'S ENVIRONMENTAL RECORDS AGAINST OUR OWN AND COMPARED WATER SAMPLES.

YOUR SPIKE IN POLLUTION IS COMING FROM THE TWO CRASHED EGG CARRIERS-- **NOT** BECAUSE OF CORAL.

THE OCEAN CURRENTS SENT IT ALL STRAIGHT TO THE CITY.

AND SINCE I MORE-OR-LESS CRASHED THE FIRST ONE...\*

\* SONIC ADVENTURE  
--THE GAME.

THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS PROMISE TO HELP YOU WITH THE CLEAN-UP.

IT IS A NOBLE OFFER, BUT WE RESPECTFULLY DECLINE. YOU'VE ALREADY DONE **SO MUCH** FOR US! YOU HELPED DRIVE BACK THE MONSTER HORDE...

...AND SHOWED US THE ERROR IN OUR JUDGMENT. WE WERE GRAVELY MISTAKEN IN PLACING SO MUCH BLAME UPON CORAL.

PRIESTESS, WE HUMBLLY ASK YOU TO RESUME YOUR RIGHTFUL POSITION...

...AND BEG THE PARDON OF THE MIGHTY CHAOS!

THANK YOU, YOUR GRACE. I CHERISH MY DUTIES AND WILL HAPPILY RETURN TO THEM.

AND... *ERM*  
...CHAOS SAYS ALL IS FORGIVEN.  
(I THINK.)



LATER STILL...

...AND I'M SORRY I COULDN'T EXPLAIN EVERYTHING EARLIER. I CAN ONLY MANIFEST NEAR POINTS OF MAGICAL POWER, AND EVEN THEN, WITH THE WORLD IN TURMOIL, IT'S A STRUGGLE.

PLEASE, WHILE I HAVE TIME, LISTEN...

A DARK ENERGY IS POISONING THE WORLD.

IT'S WHAT'S BLOCKING ME, PRODUCING THE MONSTERS, AND TURNING EVERYONE'S HEARTS CRUEL. THIS IS THE ESSENCE OF **DARK GAIA**.

YOU WILL NEED THE HELP OF THE LIGHT GAIA TO DRIVE IT BACK. KNUCKLES IS OUT LOOKING FOR HIM RIGHT NOW.\*

\*"THE GREAT CHAOS CAPER"  
--IN SONIC UNIVERSE RIGHT NOW!

WOW... YOU MANAGED TO GET KNUX TO COME DOWN OFF HIS HUNK OF ROCK **WILLINGLY?**\*

SERIOUSLY, THO--ANY IDEA WHERE WE CAN FIND THE TEMPLES?

SADLY, NO. BUT IF YOU REACH OUT TO ME WITH THE MYSTIC MELODY, YOU MAY--

JUST LIKE THAT-- SHE'S GONE AGAIN. I NEVER GOT TO THANK HER...

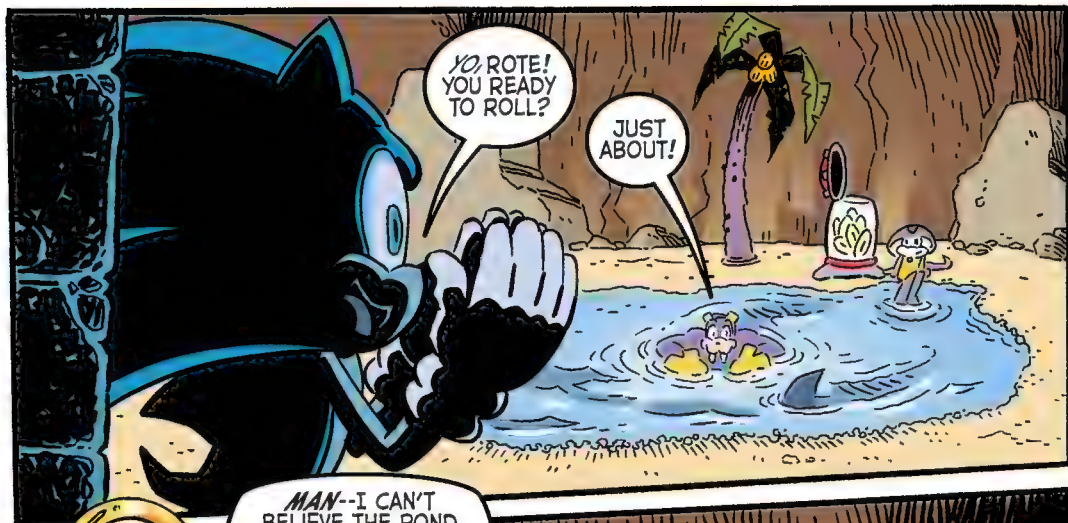
I'M SURE SHE KNOWS.

WHEN SHE GETS HER STRENGTH BACK, YOU'LL SEE HER AGAIN.

YOU'LL PROBABLY SEE HER BEFORE ME. I'VE **NEVER** SEEN ANYONE LEARN THE MYSTIC MELODY SO FAST!

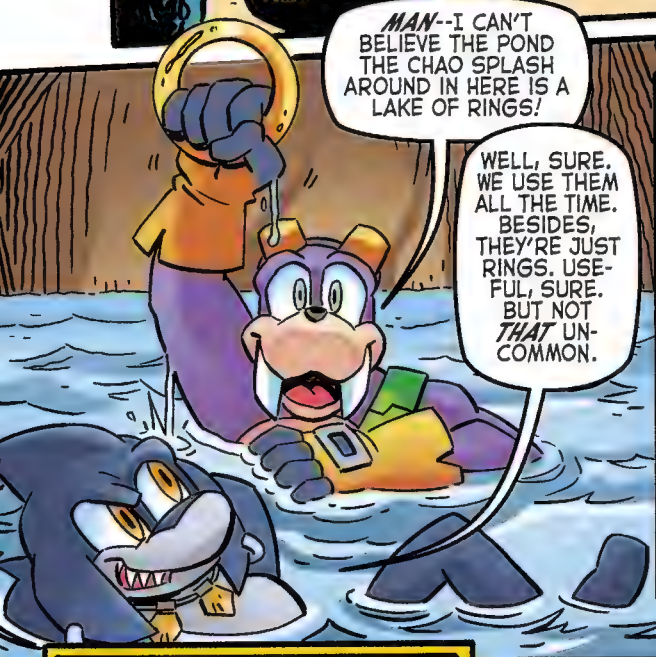
AW, WHAT CAN I SAY? I'M GIFTED!





YO, ROTE!  
YOU READY  
TO ROLL?

JUST  
ABOUT!



MAN--I CAN'T  
BELIEVE THE POND  
THE CHAO SPLASH  
AROUND IN HERE IS A  
LAKE OF RINGS!

WELL, SURE.  
WE USE THEM  
ALL THE TIME.  
BESIDES,  
THEY'RE JUST  
RINGS. USE-  
FUL, SURE.  
BUT NOT  
*THAT* UN-  
COMMON.



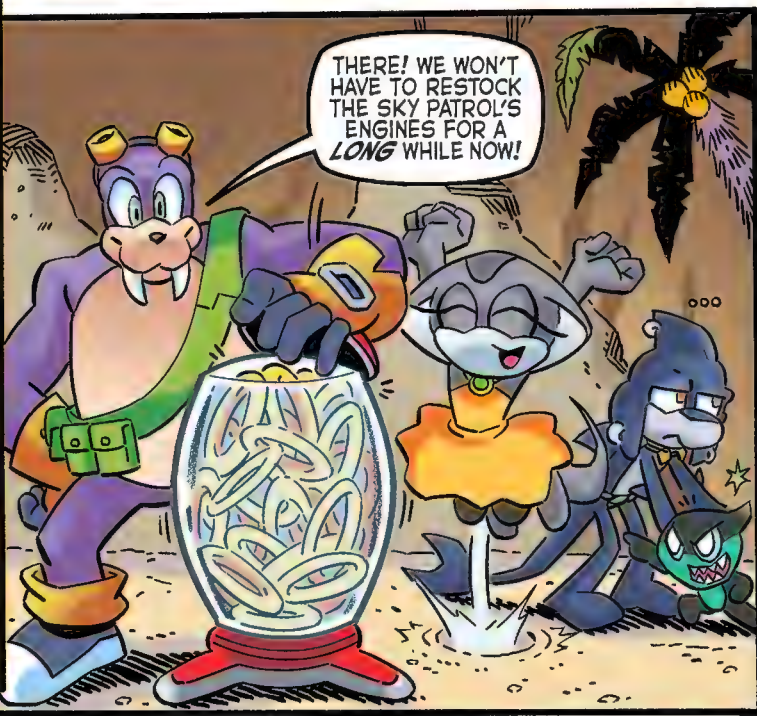
YOU COME ON A  
ZONE RUN SOME-  
TIME, HOTSHOT. SEE  
HOW YOU LIKE IT.

MAYBE  
I WILL,  
TOUGH  
GUY.



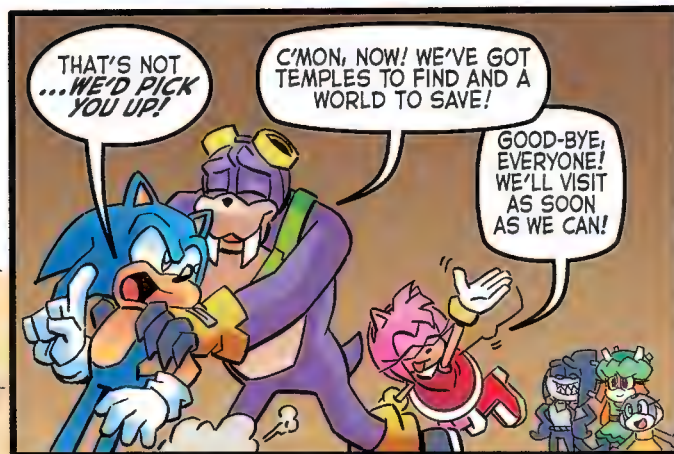
N-NO, CRUSHER! *NO!*  
TH-THOSE ARE F-FOR  
OUR FRIENDS!

**BAH!**



THERE! WE WON'T  
HAVE TO RESTOCK  
THE SKY PATROL'S  
ENGINES FOR A  
*LONG* WHILE NOW!







"AND WE'LL FILL  
YOU IN ON ALL OUR  
ADVENTURES!"

MEANWHILE,  
DEEP IN THE  
RAINFOREST...

YOU HAVE MADE SO MUCH  
PROGRESS, MY FRIEND. SWIFT  
AS THE WIND, STRONG AS A  
MOUNTAIN, AND NOW STILL AS  
AN UNTOUCHED POOL...

...AND YET THERE IS A  
FIRE THAT STILL BURNS AT  
YOUR CORE. DO YOU KNOW  
WHY YOU STILL BURN, MY  
FRIEND?

I THINK  
SO. ALL MY  
TRAINING  
HAS GIVEN  
ME  
*FOCUS...*

...BUT IT  
HASN'T GIVEN ME  
A PURPOSE.

I NEED TO *DO*  
SOMETHING WITH ALL  
THIS POWER.

**MIGHTY AND RAY ARE BACK!**  
BUT WHEN THEY MEET SONIC AGAIN,  
WILL IT BE AS FRIENDS--OR AS FOES?  
SURPRISES ABOUND NEXT TIME IN...

**"CONTROL!"**

UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS OUT ON SONIC UNIVERSE,  
SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE, SONIC SUPER  
DIGEST, AND THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!





# CONSEQUENCES

SCRIPT:  
**ALEAH  
BAKER**

PENCILS:  
**EVAN  
STANLEY**

INKS:  
**TERRY  
AUSTIN**

COLORS:  
**GABRIEL  
CASSATA**

LETTERS:  
**JOHN  
WORKMAN**





\*SEE "THE GREAT CHAOS CAPER" IN SU #63-66--ON SALE NOW!



SHORTLY, ABOARD  
THE DEATH EGG...

...AND  
JUDGING FROM  
SOME OF THEIR ATTIRE,  
WE'VE DETERMINED THAT  
THE THIEVES ARE  
LIKELY FROM--

MOBOTROPOLIS.

DO YOU THINK I  
DON'T KNOW THE  
OBNOXIOUS FACE OF  
MILES PROWER WHEN  
I SEE IT?

I...OF  
COURSE,  
SIR.

SO WHAT THIS ALL  
COMES DOWN TO  
IS...YOU **HAD** THE  
CHAOS EMERALD  
WITHIN REACH, AND  
YOU **LOST** IT.

TO THE  
FREEDOM  
FIGHTERS.

DR. EGGMAN  
MAD TYRANT

WELL, MAYBE IF  
YOU'D SENT US THE  
RIGHT EQUIPMENT  
THE **FIRST** TIME...

HUSH.

SIR, WITH ALL  
DUE RESPECT, WHILE  
WE WERE UNABLE TO  
PROCEED WITH THE  
EXCAVATION, THE  
MINE'S LOCATION  
WAS KEPT SECRET.

I DON'T WISH TO  
MAKE EXCUSES FOR  
MYSELF. HOWEVER,  
UNLESS THERE WAS  
SOME BREACH IN  
SECURITY--\*

\*5TH #255 AND  
#256.--EDITOR

YES, FINE, WHATEVER.  
FORGET THAT WORTH-  
LESS HOLE IN THE  
GROUND. YOU'RE BEING  
REASSIGNED. STAND BY  
FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

...AS YOU  
WISH, SIR.



**ORBOT!  
CUBOT!**

PULL UP THE FILES  
FOR MY RESOURCE  
ACQUISITION  
PROJECT.

OH! TO FIND ANOTHER  
CHAOS EMERALD? I  
GUESS YOU NEED TO  
LOOK SOMEWHERE  
ELSE SINCE THE  
FREEDOM FIGHTERS  
TOOK THIS ONE, HUH?

PHAGE  
Tracking

YES. YES, THEY DID.  
AND *HOW* DID THEY  
KNOW TO LOOK THERE?

...CRYSTAL  
BALL?

IMPECCABLE  
DOWNS  
SKILLS?

\* SEE ISSUE #255.

NOT ONLY DID THEY  
USE *MY* RESOURCES  
AGAINST ME, THEY  
TOOK *MY* CHAOS  
EMERALD RIGHT OUT  
FROM UNDER MY  
NOSE!

WELL...  
AT LEAST  
YOU KNOW *WHERE*  
THE EMERALD IS.  
SHALL WE MOUNT  
AN ATTACK TO  
RECLAIM  
IT?

BAH! I CAN TAKE IT  
BACK AT ANY TIME!  
AND IF THEY THINK  
THEY CAN USE *MY*  
DATA TO FIND ANY  
OTHERS...

HMMM...

...SIR?

BECAUSE WHILE I WAS STUCK  
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS  
BROKEN PIÑATA OF A PLANET,  
THAT POMPOUS PRINCESS  
SNUCK ABOARD THE DEATH  
EGG AND *STOLE MY FILES!* \*

WHEN I TOLD YOU TO  
BRING UP THOSE FILES,  
DID YOU THINK I MEANT  
YESTERDAY?

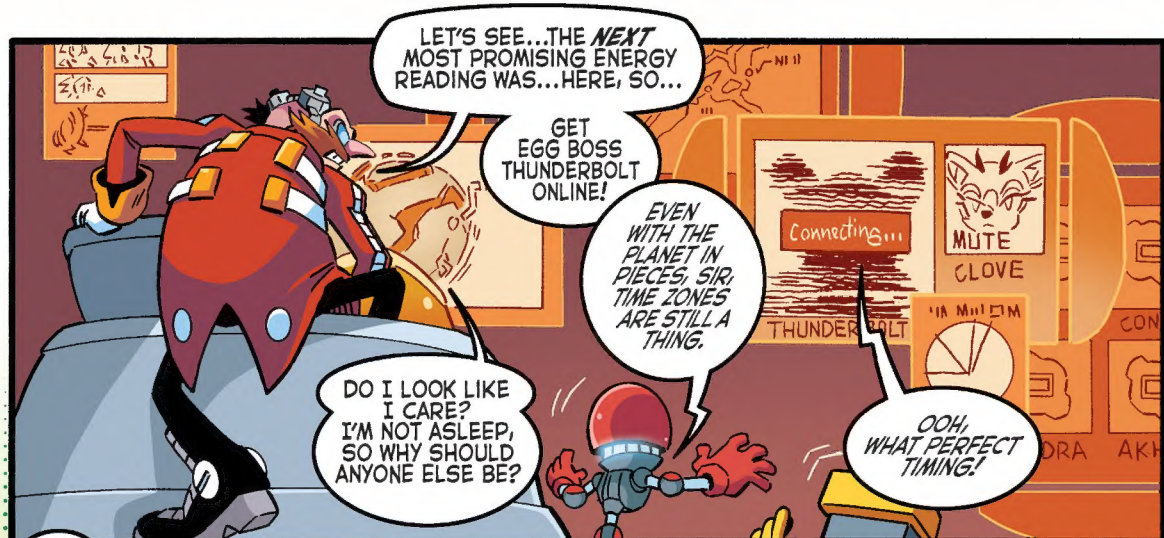
...ER...IS THAT AN  
ACTUAL QUESTION,  
OR A RHETORICAL  
ONE?

WHAT  
DO YOU  
THINK?

...ARE  
YOU ACTUALLY  
ASKING FOR OUR  
OPINION, OR IS  
THAT ALSO A  
RHETORI--

**GET TO  
WORK!**





LET'S SEE...THE *NEXT* MOST PROMISING ENERGY READING WAS...HERE, SO...

GET EGG BOSS THUNDERBOLT ONLINE!

EVEN WITH THE PLANET IN PIECES, SIR, TIME ZONES ARE STILL A THING.

DO I LOOK LIKE I CARE? I'M NOT ASLEEP, SO WHY SHOULD ANYONE ELSE BE?

OOH, WHAT PERFECT TIMING!



...OH?

I WAS JUST ABOUT TO CALL YOU! WE'VE GOT A CONFIRMED CHAOS EMERALD BEING RECOVERED AS WE SPEAK. I'LL HAVE IT ON ITS WAY TO YOU IN A MATTER OF HOURS!

REALLY, NOW!



KEEP IT THERE.

ERM... BEG YOUR PARDON?

DON'T GET ANY IDEAS. I'M NOT SAYING IT'S YOURS TO KEEP. OBVIOUSLY, I'M SURE YOU KNOW BETTER TO *THINK* OF DOING SUCH A THING.



BUT I'M AFRAID THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE WHO NEEDS TO LEARN THE CONSEQUENCES OF TRYING TO GO BEHIND MY BACK...OF TRYING TO BE JUST A LITTLE TOO CLEVER...AND THAT CHAOS EMERALD WILL PROVIDE THE PERFECT BAIT.

OOH, DOCTOR EGGMAN...

...I *DO* SO LIKE THE WAY YOU THINK!

oh...  
**SO**  
not  
the  
**end!**





**SONIC-GRAMS**

# FAN ART



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from New York



**Doy C.** sent to  
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**Barrington R.**  
from Pennsylvania



**Sabrina F.** sent to  
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**HEY, KIDS!**

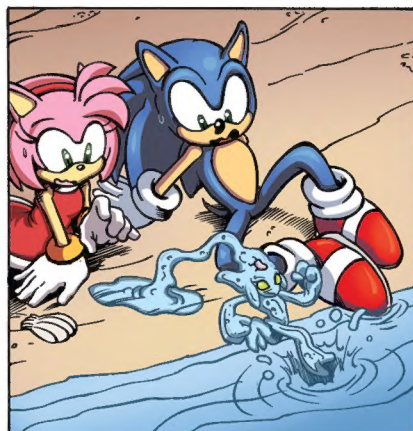
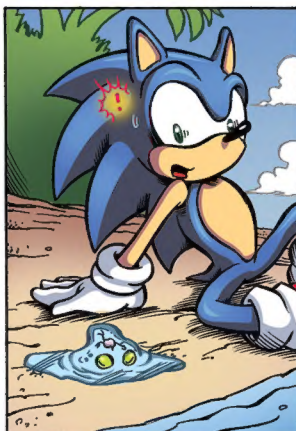
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## OFF PANEL

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# SONIC-GRAMS

WRITE TO US @ SONIC GRAMS C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.  
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Dear 'Sonic Grams,'

Hello guys, back again with the usual.

**Talk about getting right to the point! And here I thought Sonic was the fastest!**

**HEY! I heard that!**

Firstly, will we see more of this underwater culture after the Waves of Change story is over? I really want to see more of these characters!

**This definitely will not be last you see of Razor, Coral, Pearly and the rest of the Meropis crew!**

Secondly, what is the next Sonic game you want to adapt after Sonic Unleashed?

**Personally, I would love to explore the characters and settings of "Lost World," but we still have much to cover with the shattered world crisis. One game at a time, right?**

Finally, what do you guys think of Sonic Boom so far?

Samuel sent to  
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

**Thanks for writing in, Samuel! We are super duper pumped for Sonic Boom and can't wait to dive into the Boomiverse! Paul and I have even wrapped our arms with sports tape in anticipation of the awesomeness!**

Dear 'Sonic Grams,'

I couldn't have picked a better time to subscribe to the Sonic the Hedgehog comics than now with the Sonic Unleashed story arc! I'm a bit of a fangirl when it comes to the Werehog, (or any Sonic form, really, but who doesn't love the fluff?) so I'm especially looking forward to the upcoming comics!

**Glad to hear you're aboard our radical train! The fluff is awesome and so are you!**

I'll be checking my mailbox frequently!

**Okay! Just be careful if you check it after sunset, the Dark Gaia monsters may be on the prowl!**

I've always loved the comics for giving Sonic a backstory and life outside of the games. I'll keep reading as long as they keep being published! Keep up the great work!

Corinne S. sent to  
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

**Thanks, Corinne! It's fans like you that give us the support we need to keep making the comics. As long as there are Sonic comic fans there will always be Sonic comics!**

**See y'all next month for the first of an epic two-part story, "Control"!**

## COLLECTOR COVER SPOTLIGHT

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #263



CHAO VARIANT BY  
**EVAN STANLEY**

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## COMING SOON!

# SONIC UNIVERSE

ISSUE 67



PIXEL CUTSCENE VARIANT BY  
**RYAN JAMPOLE**

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IT'S AN ALL-OUT

**GRUDGE MATCH!**

ONLY IN


# TOTAL ECLIPSE

PART 1 OF 4

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NEXT ISSUE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 264



SEGA

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

UNLEASHED VARIANT

PART 1 OF 2

UNLEASHED VARIANT  
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CONTROL

PART 1 OF 2